

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A dielectric ceramic comprising a plurality of crystal grains with triple points located between crystal grains,  
wherein the crystal grains comprise perovskite compound grains composed of a perovskite compound represented by  $\text{ABO}_3$  (where A is Ba and Ca, and optionally Sr; and B is Ti and optionally at least one of Zr and Hf) and crystal oxide grains composed of a crystal oxide containing at least Ba, Ti and Si, and  
about 80% or more of the number of the triple points have a cross-sectional area of about  $8 \text{ nm}^2$  or less.
2. The dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the Ca is about 1 to 20 mole percent of the A element of the  $\text{ABO}_3$  perovskite compound .
3. The dielectric ceramic according to Claim 2, further comprising an oxide containing R and M, where R is at least one selected from the group consisting of La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu and Y, and M is at least one selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Co, Fe, Cr, Cu, Mg, Al, V,  
5 Mo and W,  
wherein the contents of R and M in the form of an element are about 0.01 to 1.5 moles and about 0.1 to 2 moles, respectively, with respect to 100 moles of the  $\text{ABO}_3$ .
4. The dielectric ceramic according to Claim 3, wherein the crystal oxide consists of Ba, Ti, Si, O and optionally Ni.
5. The dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, further comprising  
5 an oxide containing R and M, where R is at least one selected from the group consisting of La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu and Y, and M is at least one selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Co, Fe, Cr, Cu, Mg, Al, V, Mo and W,

wherein the contents of R and M in the form of an element are about  
10 0.01 to 1.5 moles and about 0.1 to 2 moles, respectively, with respect to 100 moles of  
the  $ABO_3$ .

6. The dielectric ceramic according to Claim 5, wherein the crystal oxide  
consists of Ba, Ti, Si, O and optionally Ni.

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7. The dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the crystal oxide  
consists of Ba, Ti, Si, O and optionally Ni.

8. A method for manufacturing the dielectric ceramic according to Claim  
1, the method comprising :  
20 providing a mixture of (a) a perovskite compound represented by  $ABO_3$  (where A is  
Ba and Ca, and optionally Sr; and B is Ti and optionally at least one of Zr and Hf); and  
(b) a crystal oxide containing at least Ba, Ti and Si; and  
firing the mixture.

9. The method for manufacturing a dielectric ceramic according to Claim  
8, wherein the mixture further comprises an oxide of R and M, where R is at least one  
selected from the group consisting of La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm,  
Yb, Lu and Y) and M is at least one selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Co,  
5 Fe, Cr, Cu, Mg, Al, V, Mo and W.

10. The method for manufacturing a dielectric ceramic according to Claim  
9, wherein the mixture further comprises a firing auxiliary agent.

11. The method for manufacturing a dielectric ceramic according to Claim  
8, wherein the mixture further comprises a firing auxiliary agent.

12. A multilayer ceramic capacitor comprising:  
a laminate containing a plurality of dielectric ceramic layers laminated  
5 to each other and a plurality of internal electrodes each of which is disposed along a

different interface between a pair of dielectric ceramic layers and which are overlapped with each other in a lamination direction; and

a pair of external electrodes on external surfaces of the laminate electrically connected to different internal electrodes ;

10                    wherein said plurality of dielectric ceramic layers comprises the dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1 .

13.     The multilayer ceramic capacitor according to Claim 12, wherein the internal electrodes comprise a base metal.

14.     The multilayer ceramic capacitor according to Claim 13, wherein the external electrodes comprise a base metal.

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15.     A multilayer ceramic capacitor comprising:

a laminate containing a plurality of dielectric ceramic layers laminated to each other and a plurality of internal electrodes each of which is disposed along a different interface between a pair of dielectric ceramic layers and which are

10 overlapped with each other in a lamination direction; and

a pair of external electrodes on external surfaces of the laminate electrically connected to different internal electrodes ;

wherein said plurality of dielectric ceramic layers comprises the dielectric ceramic according to Claim 2.

16.     The multilayer ceramic capacitor according to Claim 15, wherein the internal electrodes comprise a base metal.

17.     The multilayer ceramic capacitor according to Claim 16, wherein the external electrodes comprise a base metal.

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18.     A multilayer ceramic capacitor comprising:

a laminate containing a plurality of dielectric ceramic layers laminated to each other and a plurality of internal electrodes each of which is disposed along a different interface between a pair of dielectric ceramic layers and which are  
10 overlapped with each other in a lamination direction; and  
a pair of external electrodes on external surfaces of the laminate electrically connected to different internal electrodes ;  
wherein said plurality of dielectric ceramic layers comprises the dielectric ceramic according to Claim 3.

19. The multilayer ceramic capacitor according to Claim 18, wherein the internal electrodes comprise a base metal.

20. The multilayer ceramic capacitor according to Claim 19, wherein the external electrodes comprise a base metal.